THE CONTEST

The United Nations General Assembly has designated 11 December as the “International Mountain Day” (IMD).

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), as the coordinating agency for the preparation and animation of this celebration (IMD) and host of the Mountain Partnership Secretariat, is organizing a photo contest (the “Contest”) as part of the celebrations of the 2020 International Mountain Day.

The theme chosen for 2020 is Mountain Biodiversity.

The contest aims to celebrate the rich biodiversity in mountains as well as address the threats it faces. Half of the world’s biodiversity hotspots are concentrated in mountains and mountains support approximately one-quarter of terrestrial biological diversity. Mountains are home to rare species of plants and animals. The photo contest also aims to engage children and youth and raise their awareness about mountain biodiversity.

Participants are asked to submit:

(i) a photo of a unique or important mountain plant, crop or animal or of a highly biodiverse mountain landscape; and

(ii) the online entry form, telling us what your photo shows and why that species is unique or important.

Entries will be judged in three age categories:

• Children (Entrants aged 6 to 14 years old).
• Youth (Entrants aged 15 to 24 years old).
• Adults (Entrants over the age of 24 years old).

Photographs should not have dates or text on top of the image. All photographs should be in jpeg or jpg format. Photos should be as high resolution as possible, with a minimum of 3000 pixels in width. Entrants should also add the metadata information to the IPTC fields within the images (description, location, date photo was taken, name of photographer). The content of an image must not be altered (adding, moving or eliminating elements within a frame, for example, is not allowed), but basic image retouching is permitted (contrast, brightness, etc.)

RULES

The Contest is open only to individuals (“Entrants”). The age to declare is that at the time of entering the Contest. If the entrant is under the age of 18, the consent of their parent or legal
guardian is required. FAO employees and their immediate family members (spouses, parents, children, siblings and their respective spouses, regardless of where they live) or persons living in the same households of such employees, whether or not related, are not eligible to enter the Contest. FAO will determine eligibility at its sole discretion.

Entrants must submit to the Contest original works for which they are the sole creator and copyright holder. FAO and the Mountain Partnership respect your rights and do not claim ownership or copyright for works you submit to this Contest, you will retain full ownership and copyright to each entry. In addition your moral rights are respected. You will be credited whenever your work is published by FAO, the Mountain Partnership and their partners. Photo credit will appear on the published photo. Failure to publish a credit due to error or oversight shall not be deemed a breach of this condition.

If the photo contains images of a person or persons, Entrants must have obtained the permission of those persons, or if such person or persons are under the age of 18, of their respective parent or legal guardian, for submission of their photo to the Contest, as well as for the use of the photo as described herein. FAO will not be responsible for any claim or complaints alleging violation of the rights of third parties.

By entering the Contest, Entrants grant FAO a non-exclusive, irrevocable, free and perpetual license throughout the world to reproduce, distribute, display, share and create derivative works of the entries (along with a name credit) in connection with the Contest and the promotion of FAO’s work. The entries may be used for:

- Display on the FAO corporate website (www.fao.org) and FAO social media channels, and on the Mountain Partnership corporate website (http://www.fao.org/mountain-partnership/home/en/) and Mountain Partnership social media channels.
- Display at public exhibitions to promote the Contest or the work of FAO and its partners.
- Display in a book, documentation, videos or any other media for non-commercial use to promote the work of FAO and its partners.
- Publications including posters, postcards and calendars to promote the work of FAO and its partners.
- Social media and communication products of Mountain Partnership members and other UN organizations.
- Cropping and re-sizing, as necessary, to fit pre-defined formats to promote the work of FAO and its partners.
- Sub-licensing to the press for reproduction in connection with the Contest and any related media release on IMD.

FAO will not pay any fees for, nor pay any costs relating to, the entry of the photograph(s) in to the Contest or for their use as described above.
FAO reserves the right to verify the eligibility of any entry and/or Entrant (including an Entrant’s identity and address) and to disqualify any Entrant who submits an entry that is not in accordance with these rules or who tampers with the entry process.

By submitting entries to the Contest, Entrants agree that personal data, especially name and address, may be processed, shared and otherwise used for the purposes outlined in these Rules. The data may also be used by FAO in order to verify the Entrant’s identity, postal address and telephone number or to otherwise verify the Entrant’s eligibility to participate in the Contest. FAO is not responsible for any entries not received due to internet or software failures.

Nothing in the Rules for this Contest, nor any acts performed or statements made in relation to this Contest, shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of FAO.

**PROCESS AND SELECTION CRITERIA**

The Contest opens at 12:00:00 Central European Time (CET) on 6 October 2020 and closes at 12:00:00 pm CET 23 November 2020. Entries received after the deadline will not be considered.

After the deadline for submissions has expired, FAO will select, at its sole discretion, a shortlist of finalists for each age category received within the deadline and based on the following criteria: originality, relevance to the theme, artistic value and communication potential.

The shortlist will be submitted to a FAO Jury which, at its sole discretion, will select the winner for each age category which it considers to most closely meet the above criteria.

The winner of each age category will be notified by email using the contact details provided with the entry. In the event that any of the selected winners is ineligible, cannot be traced or does not respond within ten (10) days to a winner notification as required by the Contest Rules above, or refuses the prize, the prize will be forfeited, and it will be in the sole discretion of the FAO Jury to choose whether to award the prize to another eligible entry.

The winners of the Contest will be publicly announced on 11th of December 2020, International Mountain Day.

**ACCEPTANCE**

By submitting entries to the Contest, the Entrant confirms that the Rules for this Contest, as set out above, have been read, understood and agreed to by the Entrant or their respective parent or legal guardian.
PRIZE

A prize will be awarded to the best photo of each age category. The prize for the outright winner of each age category will consist of an action camera. Prizes for the Contest may not be substituted, replaced or otherwise modified.

GENERAL INFORMATION

FAO is an agency of the United Nations specializing in the sectors of food and agriculture, with the ultimate goal of eradicating hunger. There are a total of 194 member nations, one member organization (European Union) and two associate members (Faroe Islands and Tokelau) in the Organization, working together to achieve food security for all. FAO’s mandate is to improve nutrition, increase agricultural productivity, raise the standard of living in rural populations and contribute to global economic growth.

In the context of this mandate, FAO produces communications and information materials that are used to raise awareness about key issues in food and agriculture and to achieve its goal of ending global hunger. FAO’s communication materials are available in many languages and distributed worldwide entirely free of charge for non-commercial purposes. Examples of its materials can be found on FAO’s website: www.fao.org.

Since 2003, FAO has observed IMD every year to create awareness about the importance of mountains to life, to highlight the opportunities and constraints in mountain development and to build alliances that will bring positive change to mountain people and environments around the world.

The Water and Mountains Team at FAO, Forestry Department, of which the Mountain Partnership Secretariat is part, is responsible for coordinating the activities of IMD, and in this case, for managing the operational tasks related to the Contest.

The Mountain Partnership (MP) is a United Nations voluntary alliance of governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society and the private sector committed to working together with the common goal of achieving sustainable mountain development worldwide. The MP communication network will also be used to disseminate the Contest.